# The Lord's Day in Worship

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** 

Perseverance may be defined as that continuous operation of the Holy Spirit in the believer, by which the work of divine grace that is begun in the heart, is continued and brought to completion. It is because God never forsakes His work that believers continue to stand to the very end.

-Louis Berkhof

If I did not believe the doctrine of the final perseverance of the saints, I think I should be of all men the most miserable, because I should lack any ground for comfort.

—Charles H. Spurgeon

Christ, that is, by his suffering and death has not only accomplished the righteousness on the basis of which believers can be acquitted by God; he has similarly secured the holiness by which he can consecrate them to God and purify them from the stains of sin.

—Herman Bavinck

Dan Edwards

### **M HYMN OF ADORATION**

To comply with current CDC recommendations, we encourage the congregation to sing in moderation while wearing masks.

"Arise My Soul, Arise

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears; The bleeding Sacrifice on my behalf appears: Before the throne my Surety stands, Before the throne my Surety stands, My name is written on His hands.

#### Chorus:

Arise, arise, arise my soul arise! Arise, arise, arise my soul arise— Shake off your guilty fears and rise!

He ever lives above for me to intercede,
His all redeeming love, His precious blood to plead;
His blood atoned for ev'ry race,
His blood atoned for ev'ry race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.
(Chorus)

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,
"Don't let that ransomed sinner die!"
(Chorus)

My God is reconciled, His pardoning voice I hear; He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear; With confidence I now draw nigh, With confidence I now draw nigh, And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry. (Chorus, twice)

Words: Charles Wesley, 1742. Music: Kevin Twit, 1996. CCLI 2570138.

# **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

# **READING FROM THE PROPHETS**

Will Graham

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth,

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.* 

<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful Father—
You who are rich in mercy to all those who call upon Your Name—
We humbly confess our sins and transgressions to You.
We have lived in the fear of man
Rather than in the fear of the Lord,
We have harbored sin and iniquity deep in our heart
Rather than pursue true justice and godliness,
And we have proudly placed our hope in ourselves
Rather than humbly placing our hope in the Lord Jesus.
Have mercy on us and forgive us for the sake of Your Son, King Jesus,
And enable us to live and serve Him in newness of life
To His eternal glory, Amen.

# INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

"Trisagion"

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have Mercy, have mercy on us.

Words: Book of Common Prayer. Music: Fernando Ortega. CCLI 6485614.

# **MASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

—1 Peter 1:3

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you forgiveness of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit.

What is thy only comfort in life and death? (Heidelberg Catechism Q1)

That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who, with his precious blood, has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, and therefore, by his Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto him.

"Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone. What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand? What comes, apart from His command? And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

#### Chorus:

O sing hallelujah!

Our hope springs eternal; O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.

Where is His grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial? Who sends the waves that bring us nigh? Unto the shore, the rock of Christ? (Chorus)

Unto the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!" And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord, Then sin and death will be destroyed, And we will feast in endless joy, When Christ is ours forevermore. (Chorus, twice)

Words and Music: Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Matt Papa ©2020 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) / Messenger Hymns (BMI) / Jordan Kauflin Music (BMI) / Matthew Merker Music (BMI) / Getty Music Hymns and Songs (ASCAP) / Love Your Enemies Publishing (ASCAP) / adm at MusicServices.org. CCLI # 7147502.

# **READING FROM THE PSALMS**

Psalm 119:153-160

Look on my affliction and deliver me, for I do not forget your law. 154 Plead my cause and redeem me; give me life according to your promise! 155 Salvation is far from the wicked,

for they do not seek your statutes.

<sup>156</sup>Great is your mercy, O LORD; give me life according to your rules.

<sup>157</sup>Many are my persecutors and my adversaries, but I do not swerve from your testimonies.

<sup>158</sup>I look at the faithless with disgust, because they do not keep your commands.

<sup>159</sup>Consider how I love your precepts!

Give me life according to your steadfast love.

<sup>160</sup>The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.* 

# **GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS**

John Fountain

"Speak, O Lord" Emilie Alonso and Rachel Barlotta

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You,
To receive the food of Your holy word;
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us,
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today,
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith;
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity;
Cause our faith to rise,
Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority;
Words of power that can never fail,
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us;
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity,
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us;
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built,
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

Words and Music: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend. CCLI 147209.

# **MASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the LORD be with you.

And also with you.

# **MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

See page 16 for our Ministry Announcements.

# THE MORNING PRAYERS

Michael Latta

John 17:6-19

"I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7Now they know that every-thing that you have given me is from you. <sup>8</sup>For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. 11 And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. 13 But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

All flesh is like grass,

And all its glory is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

But the word of our God stands forever.

# **MESSAGE**

"PERSEVERANCE BY THE WORD"  Josh Johnson		

# PRAYER OF COMMITMENT AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

This we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

"He Will Hold Me Fast"

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast; When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast. I could never keep my hold Through life's fearful path, For my love is often cold, He must hold me fast.

### Chorus:

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast, For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast; Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast; He'll not let my soul be lost, His promises shall last, Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. (Chorus)

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast; Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast; Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast, 'Till our faith if turned to sight When He comes at last. (Chorus, twice)

Words and Music: Aaron Ivey and Brett Land. CCLI 7006188.

**Sunday, August 9.** On Sunday, August 9, Sandy Willson will lead a session on transitioning to a new senior pastor as we look forward to welcoming Robby and Chrissy Holt to Covenant. The session will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will be in person and livestreamed before the service begins at 10:30.

**Appreciation Sunday.** On Sunday, August 16, we will have a time of appreciation for Sandy Willson beginning at 10:00 a.m. Please join us that morning in person or via livestream to thank Sandy for all that he has done for Covenant over the last three years. Due to social distancing restrictions, we will not be able to gather following the service. If you would like to express your personal gratitude to Sandy for his ministry at Covenant, please send a note or card to the church office.

**College Summer Fellowship.** Our last Summer College Fellowship night is this Tuesday, August 4. All college students (including rising freshmen) are invited to join us from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Johnsons' home (1437 Linda Vista Lane, 35226).

Women's Fall Bible Studies. Beginning September 8, we will offer a fall Bible study on Ephesians, studying what it means to be vitally connected to Christ and His Church. We will have a Tuesday morning teaching time in the Sanctuary led by different women. We plan to have childcare and small groups. Divine Design Discipleship will also begin on September 8 with large group and discipleship groups as well. Kathy Girardeau will explore Expectations—how powerfully they impact our life experience and how to bring them into agreement with Biblical truth. Please visit covpres.com/fall-study for more information.

Fall Sunday School Plans. In light of the limitations of gathering due to COVID-19, we are dividing our Sunday School communities into two groups for fall and winter that will meet every other Sunday evening from 5:00-6:00 p.m. beginning September 13. We will have 30 minutes of teaching time in the Sanctuary followed by 30 minutes of fellowship and prayer in assigned classrooms. For the group assignments and dates, please see covpres.com/sunday-school-communities. Our full nursery will be available, and Children's Sunday School and Youth Small Groups will also take place during this time. We will be sending out specific RSVP links in September. If you have any questions, please contact David Driskill (ddriskill@covpres.com) or Laura Tucker (ltucker@covpres.com).

#### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

#### **EXECUTIVE STAFF**

Marty Crawford, Assistant Pastor (Church Administrator, Senior Adults, Missions)

David Driskill, Assistant Pastor (Middle Adults, Shepherding)

Dan Edwards, Assistant Pastor (Children)

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#### MINISTRY STAFF

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#### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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### **RULING ELDERS**

2020 2021 2022 Bill Bennett Eric Getty Ty Dedmon Will Brooke Russell Martin John Hamilton Michael Latta Daniel Murray Mark Hogewood Charlie Logan Warren Norville John James Paul Loyless Sandy Stradtman David O'Dell Bob Schaffeld Clay Wheeler Norman Pless Lee Sheppard Kurt Senn Steve Stigler

# **DEACONS**

Danny Smith Robert Stephens Clark Worrell

Mark Taylor John Wood

2022 2020 2021 Jim Bennett Tripp Alexander Nick Baggett William Edwards Paul Darden Ward Bailey Jay Evans Samuel Bragg Merrill Johnston Randall Lancaster Bryan Flores Trey Clegg Will Graham Mark Midvette John Gant John David Gray Jeff Hicks Stephen Mince Marty Martin Jim Jenkins Clyde Prather Bud Miller Alan Spooner John Shank Tyler O'Connor Patrick Strong Matt Thomas John Shults **Greg Tomlinson** 

# **BIBLE READING PLAN**

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers, and hymns. The scripture readings are from Ligonier Ministries and are designed around a one-year cycle that will allow you to read through the New Testament or the entire Bible in 2020.

#### **AUGUST READING PLAN**

AUGUST READING FEAR			
	PSALMS	ROMANS	
1/2	□ 65-69	□ 4	
3	□ 70-72	□ 5	
4	□ 73-74	□ 6	
5	□ 75-76	□ 7	
6	□ 77-79	□8	
7	□ 80-84	□ 9:1-10:4	
8/9	□ 85-90	□ 10:5-11:10	
10	□ 91-93	□ 11:11-36	
11	□ 94-95	□ 12	
12	□ 96-98	□ 13	
13	□ 99-101	□ 14	
14	□ 102-104	□ 15:1-21	
15/16	□ 105-108	□ 15:22-1 Corinthians 1:17	
		1 CORINTHIANS	
17	□ 109-110	1 <b>CORINTHIANS</b> □ 1:18-31	
17 18	□ 109-110 □ 111-112		
		□ 1:18-31	
18	□ 111-112	□ 1:18-31 □ 2	
18 19	□ 111-112 □ 113-115	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3	
18 19 20	□ 111-112 □ 113-115 □ 116-119:48	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4	
18 19 20 21	□ 111-112 □ 113-115 □ 116-119:48 □ 119:49-104	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5	
18 19 20 21 22/23	□ 111-112 □ 113-115 □ 116-119:48 □ 119:49-104 □ 119:105-176	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6	
18 19 20 21 22/23 24	□ 111-112 □ 113-115 □ 116-119:48 □ 119:49-104 □ 119:105-176 □ 120-124	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6 □ 7	
18 19 20 21 22/23 24 25	□ 111-112 □ 113-115 □ 116-119:48 □ 119:49-104 □ 119:105-176 □ 120-124 □ 125-127	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6 □ 7 □ 8	
18 19 20 21 22/23 24 25 26	□ 111-112 □ 113-115 □ 116-119:48 □ 119:49-104 □ 119:105-176 □ 120-124 □ 125-127 □ 128-130	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6 □ 7 □ 8 □ 9	
18 19 20 21 22/23 24 25 26 27	□ 111-112 □ 113-115 □ 116-119:48 □ 119:49-104 □ 119:105-176 □ 120-124 □ 125-127 □ 128-130 □ 131-133	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6 □ 7 □ 8 □ 9 □ 10:1-22	
18 19 20 21 22/23 24 25 26 27 28	□ 111-112 □ 113-115 □ 116-119:48 □ 119:49-104 □ 119:105-176 □ 120-124 □ 125-127 □ 128-130 □ 131-133 □ 134-137	□ 1:18-31 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 □ 6 □ 7 □ 8 □ 9 □ 10:1-22 □ 10:23-11:1	

